

IOR: L/P+S/12/3111

IOR:



23-106

Previous File:

Next File: *36/41*

No. *22*

IOR: L/PIS/12/3111

File *1*

POLITICAL (EXTERNAL) DEPARTMENT.
COLLECTION.

GENERAL HEADING

North Eastern Frontier
Tibet
Anglo Tibetan Relations.

SUB-HEAD

Abor country & Ladoga Frontier Tract.
Inob-Tibetan Frontiers.
Extension of Govt. Control.
Upper Siang (Langpo) Valley.
Suppression of Human Sacrifice.
(Establishment of outposts at Kachok & Riga)

Notes:

Closed.
This File contains the following papers:—

YEAR.	
1928	P. <i>2274</i> <i>5938</i>
1929	P. <i>2115</i> <i>3376</i> <i>4284</i> <i>5707</i> <i>6240</i>
1930	P. <i>7073</i> 1931 P. Z. <i>5299</i>
1932	P. Z. <i>4478</i>
1938	P. Z. <i>676</i> <i>1637</i>
19	P.
19	P.
19	P.

Papers may be removed from or placed within this File only by the Political Registry.

T
94

PUT AWAY

P. 593

Notes.

Register No.

P.

7073/30

SEC

POLITICAL

Minute Paper.

Dated

Rec.

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT
To			North. East Fr
Under Secretary	31. 10. 30	904	Inter-tribal feuds betw
Secretary of State...			
Committee.....	11. xi	W	Southern groups of the
Under Secretary.....			
Secretary of State...			

Copy of

FOR INFORMATION

In Nov. 1928 (P. 5933/28) it was noted that they had considered what was "land-hunger" which had no northern (Riga) group of the Ligon river into the territory groups (vide sketch-map below). Officer, Sadiya Frontier Trade in order to obtain further information touch with the Northern Aborigines. Riga has planned for the project has been abandoned "for the present to call a halt" allow that hunger to work up are brought to send a deputy promenade by our Political (P. 7073/30.) The economic report in the Sadiya Administration Report which will be found below.

SEER
POLITICAL COMMITTEE

17 NOV 1930

Previous Papers:--

4407B 1000 3.30

I do not know that the

has intended in any way

PUT AWAY WITH.

P. 5933/28.

Notes.

Register No.

P.

7073/30

Minute Paper.

SECRET.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated

19

Rec.

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To			North. East Frontier
Under Secretary	31. 10. 28	gaw	Inter-tribal feuds between the northern & Southern groups of the Minyong Abors.
Secretary of State....			
Committee.....	11. 28	W	
Under Secretary.....			
Secretary of State...			

Copy of

to

FOR INFORMATION.

In Nov. 1928 (P. 5933/28) the G. of S. were asked if they had considered what was the remedy for the "land-hunger" which had resulted in raiding by the northern (Riga) group of the Minyong Abors across the Siyom river into the territory of the southern (Kebang) groups (vide sketch-map below). Early in 1929 the Political Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract, proceeded to the Siyom river in order to obtain further information, but failed to get into touch with the Northern Abors (P. 3376/29). A visit to Riga was planned for the cold-weather of 1929-30 (P. 4284/29) & subsequently postponed until 1930-31 (P. 5707/29). The project has now been abandoned, the G. of S. having decided "for the present to take a halt on the banks of the Siyom & allow that hunger to work upon the Minyong Abors, until they are brought to send a deputation to our side & so render promenades by our Political Officers on their side unnecessary" (P. 7073/30.) The economic aspect of the problem is discussed in the Sadiya Administration Report for 1928-29, an extract from which will be found below.

W. H. Anderson.

21/10/30

I do not know that the G. of S. Enquiry of 19 Nov. 1928 has intended in any way to suggest a visit to the territory north

SECRET
POLITICAL COMMITTEE

17 NOV 1930

Previous Papers :—

note of the Lygon in order to find out the cause & remedy
of the economic trouble. At the Asian Inst. (Paris & others)
when 17 & April 1929. P3376/4 / seem to have taken it in
this sense.

Insulation

31.10.20

W

13/11

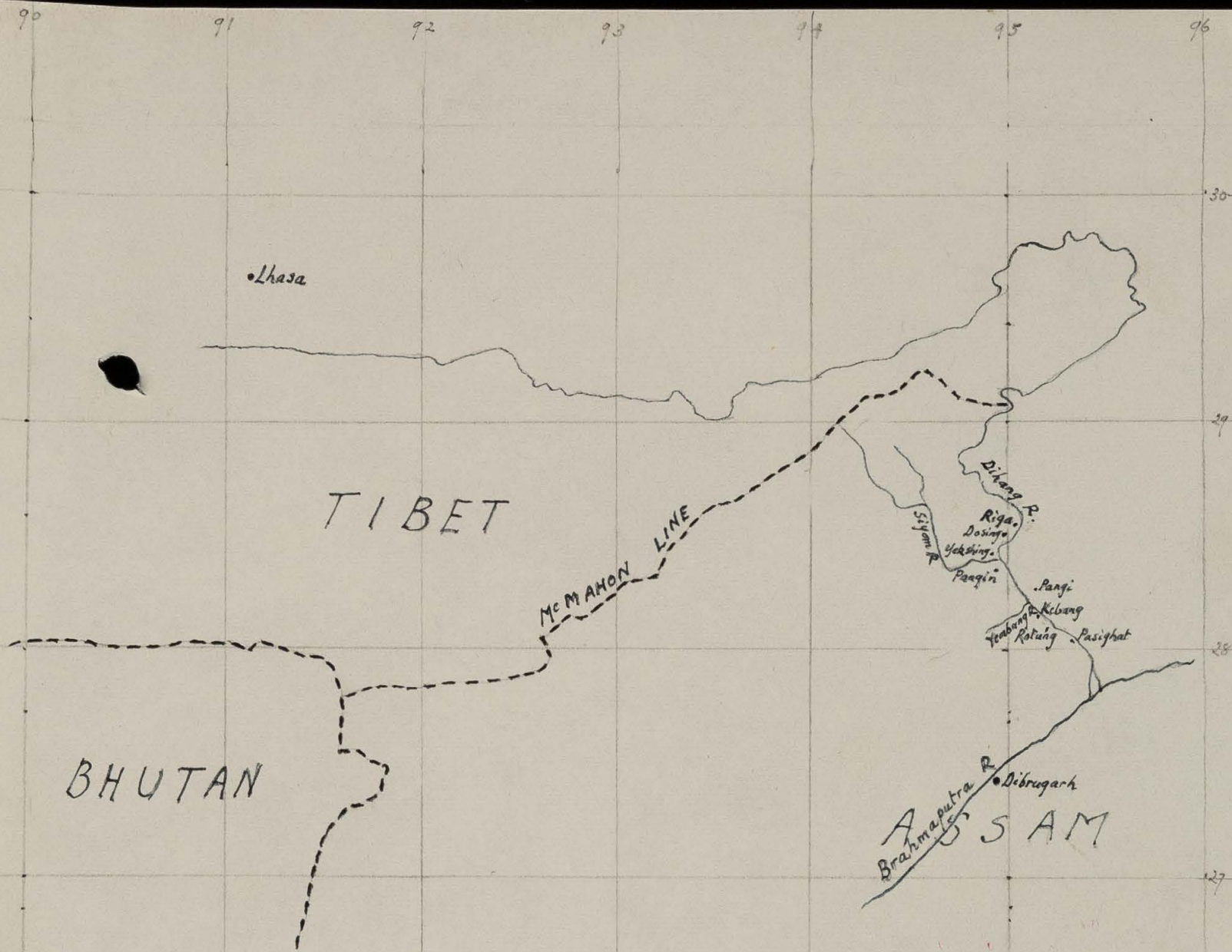
E. G. G.

15. 11

SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE

17 NOV 1930

17. 11



Reference P.1517/14.



D.O.No. F.254-X/30.

Simla;
The 24th September 1930.



INDEXED

Proposed visit by the Political
Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract,
to Dosing and Riga villages.

.....

My dear Walter,

With reference to your letter of the 29th
November 1928, No. P.5933/28, I am desired to forward,

To the Chief Secretary to the Government of
Assam, No. F.254-X, dated 8th July 1930.
From the Chief Secretary to the Government
of Assam, No. Pol/2351-9521-A.P., dated 10th
September 1930.

for the informa-
tion of His
Majesty's
Secretary of

State, a copy of the demi-official correspondence noted
in the margin.

Yours sincerely

L.B. Howell.

To

J.C.Walton Esquire., C.B., M.C.,

Secretary, Political Department,

India Office, London.



(With 2 spare copies).

970

Foreign and Political Department.

D.O.No. F.254-X/30.

Simla;

The 8th ~~Sept~~ July 1930.

Proposed visit by the Political
Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract,
to Dosing and Riga villages.

.....

My dear Cosgrave,

No copy received

Please refer to your letter of the 22nd May,
No. Pol-1247-6999 A.P., regarding the proposed visit
of the Political Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract, to
Dosing and Riga villages during the cold weather of
1930-31.

2. In dealing with a remote and unfamiliar region
like the Sadiya tract it is not possible for the Government
of India to do more than lay down a general line of policy
and give its approval or otherwise to the proposals of
the Local Government in so far as they appear to fall
within the compass of that policy. In this instance no
general scheme of penetration nor any definite forward
policy in the Abor Tracts has ever been sanctioned, and
the whole position therefore appears to require re-
examination. At one time the Government of India were told
that the Siyom river would provide an excellent natural
boundary better than the Yembung stream and that the
location of a fortified post on the banks of the Siyom
was necessary to prevent bloodshed. The location of a post
on the Siyom was accordingly sanctioned. Then the
suggestion was made that the Political Officer, Sadiya

Frontier

Frontier Tract, should cross the Siyom to get into touch with the representatives of Dosing and Yekshing villages on the farther bank. This was by implication sanctioned, but before action could be taken, the suggestion was altered to one that Dosing and Riga villages should be visited, Riga being the head village of the Abor Section concerned, but considerably further off.

3. If it is a fact that incursions from the farther bank of the Siyom river are due to land hunger from which the Minyong Abors are suffering, the Government of India would be glad to know whether in the opinion of the Assam Government it would not be as well for the present to call a halt on the banks of the Siyom and allow that hunger to work upon the Minyong Abors, until they are brought to send a deputation to our side and so render promenades by our Political Officers on their side unnecessary.

4. I am to ask that the situation be re examined in the light of these remarks and the further conclusion of the Assam Government submitted at the earliest possible date.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. E.B.Howell.

To

W.A.Cosgrave, Esquire.,

Offg. Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.

D.O.No. Pol/2351-9521-A.P.

Assam Secretariat.

Dated Shillong, the 10th September 1930.

Proposed visit by the Political
Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract,
to Dosing and Riga villages.

.....

My dear Howell,

I am desired to refer to your D.O. No. F.254-X/30, dated the 8th July 1930, regarding the proposed visit by the Political Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract, to Dosing and Riga villages. After discussing the matter with you at Simla, His Excellency agrees with the Government of India that it would be well for the present to call a halt on the banks of the Siyom river and to refrain from any visits to those villages. Accordingly instructions have been issued to the Political Officer that the policy on the frontier must for some time to come be definitely restricted to maintaining the Status quo, and that owing to the present financial stringency no action of any kind should be taken which may lead to new commitments involving future expenditure.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. W.A.Cosgrave.

To

E.B.Howell, Esq., C.S.I., C.I.E.,

Foreign Secretary to the Government of India.

INDEXED

Government of Assam.

The Governor-in-Council.

Letter No. Pol. 2214/5938 A.P.

Appointment & Political Department.

Political Branch. PUT AWAY WITH

From

G.E. Soames, Esquire, C.I.E.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam,

To

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India.

Shillong, the 20th August 1929.

Advance to the Siyom River in the Abor
Country in the Sadiya Frontier Tract.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the correspondence resting with my letter No. Pol. 2075/5569 A.P, dated the 5th August 1929, and to report, for the information of the Government of India, that no expenditure will be required in connection with the advance of the Yembung post during this year except on account of the increase in the coolie corps.

The cost during the current year on account of the addition of one sardar and twenty-five coolies to the Sadiya coolie corps is estimated at Rs. 3,450/-. Of this amount Rs. 2,820/- can be found from the budget grant under the appropriate head and it is probable that the balance can be met later from other heads within the grant under the head "29-A-Frontier Watch and Ward - C-Miscellaneous" in the budget for 1929-30. Should the Government of Assam not be able to meet the expenditure by a re-appropriation within their powers of sanction, the Government of India will be addressed again.

I have, etc.,

Sd/- G. E. Soames,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.

ENCLOSURE IN
INDIA FOREIGN SECRETARY'S

Letter No. 1815 M.

Dated 12 SEP. 1929

Received 30 SEP. 1929

EXTRACT

Registry

Copy of the passage
marked A on page 3 should

REPORT OF THE
R 1928-29.

go on the file dealing with

"A the establishment of a new post
Pangi tr on the Siyom River (Sadya
continue Frontier Tract)

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combined

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9.9.

5933/28

P.P. 5707/29

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neighbours has

active operations

Another big

planned for early

able reason, but

probably on account of mutual distrust of the allies, who separated as they are by the Pangis are always doubtful as to the ability of their fellows to synchronize their attacks. Possibly the very decided reverse they experienced last year had also had an effect on their plans for the further active prosecution of the war.

"There is, however, no sign that either party is willing to negotiate for peace, and our poll-tax paying subjects have on several occasions approached me for leave to join in the war on behalf of the allies, which was refused.

"During the year with the sanction of Government the Political Officer and the Assistant Political Officer, Pasighat, accompanied by an escort consisting of one British Officer, one Gurkha Officer and 50 rifles of the 2nd Battalion, Assam Rifles, advanced to the Siyom river in an endeavour to clear up the situation reported in last year's administration report, which had arisen as the result of continued pressure exercised by Yekshing and Dosing villagers on Pangin village. Owing to the fact that neither Yekshing nor Dosing would come in to discuss the points at issue, the visit was not fully successful in

its

EXTRACT FROM THE ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE
SADIYA FRONTIER TRACT FOR THE YEAR 1928-29.

"Abors. - The state of war existing between the Pangri tribe and their Minyong and Padam neighbours has continued throughout the year, though active operations have not taken place on any big scale. Another big combined attack by Minyong and Padam was planned for early March but fell through, for no ascertainable reason, but probably on account of mutual distrust of the allies, who separated as they are by the Pangis are always doubtful as to the ability of their fellows to synchronize their attacks. Possibly the very decided reverse they experienced last year had also had an effect on their plans for the further active prosecution of the war.

"There is, however, no sign that either party is willing to negotiate for peace, and our poll-tax paying subjects have on several occasions approached me for leave to join in the war on behalf of the allies, which was refused.

"During the year with the sanction of Government the Political Officer and the Assistant Political Officer, Pasighat, accompanied by an escort consisting of one British Officer, one Gurkha Officer and 50 rifles of the 2nd Battalion, Assam Rifles, advanced to the Siyom river in an endeavour to clear up the situation reported in last year's administration report, which had arisen as the result of continued pressure exercised by Yekshing and Dosing villagers on Pangin village. Owing to the fact that neither Yekshing nor Dosing would come in to discuss the points at issue, the visit was not fully successful in

its object, but the fact that we have shown ourselves capable of moving forward from Yembung will have a certain effect on the upper Minyong group, and should the suggestions made in my report on the situation be accepted, I trust that we shall be in a position adequately to cope with this economic pressure on the right bank of the Dihang river, which on the left bank has resulted in the Pangi war.

"It is evident that unless the Abors living in the upper hills will take up wet rice cultivation, or, abandoning their previous policy of isolation, come down yearly to the plains, as do the Mishmis, in search of work which will support them for several months and enable them to return with a certain stock of food-stuffs, lack of cultivable land and pressure of population must lead to war, this being the only other outlet for them.

INDEXED

P
5707
1929

MR
Put by
HAR 4/1

Copy of a letter No.F.179-X/28, dated Simla, the 5th July 1929, from the Under Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.

PUT AWAY WITH

5932/28

Advance to the Siyom river in the
Abor country in the Sadiya Frontier
Tract.

1.1.4284/29
r

With reference to the letter from the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department No.179-X/28, dated the 6th June 1929, I am directed to request that the specific reappropriation made to meet the expenditure on the advance of the Yembung post and the addition to the Sadiya Coolie Corps, may be communicated to the Government of India at an early date.

ENCLOSURE IN
INDIA FOREIGN SECRETARY'S
Letter No. 74 M.
Date 15 AUG. 1929
2 SEP. 1929

Copy of a letter No.Pol-2075-5569-A.P.,dated Shillong, the 5th August 1929, from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam, to the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India.

Advance to the Siyom river in the Abor country in the Sadiya Frontier Tract.

I am directed to refer to the correspondence resting with Mr. Narahari Rao's letter No.F.179-X/28, dated the 5th July 1929, on the subject of the advance to the Siyom river in the Abor country in the Sadiya Frontier Tract.

2. In reply, I am to say that the Political Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract, has now reported that he prefers to postpone the proposed visit to Dosing and Riga villages till the cold weather of 1930-31. His reason for this suggestion is that it will take time to build the new post at Pangin and improve the track thereto, and that it would be well to have the post securely established before carrying out the proposed visit. The post will enable the Political Officer to establish touch with Yekshing and Dosing in the interval and those villages will be less likely to suspect the motives of a visit paid in the following year. This will minimize the risk of any opposition.

In these circumstances the Governor in Council agrees with the Political Officer and considers that it is advisable to postpone the visit till the cold weather of 1930-31.

3. With regard to the question raised in paragraph 3 of Mr. Acheson's letter No.F-179-X/28, dated the 6th June 1929, whether the Local Government are satisfied that they will be in a position to deal with any situation which may arise without military assistance, I am to say that the Assam Rifles would be able to cope with any trouble that might arise.

4. A report regarding the extra cost required during the current year for the entertainment of an additional section of the coolie corps sanctioned in Mr. Acheson's letter No.F.179-X/28, dated the 6th June 1929, will be submitted later.

PUT AWAY WITH

5933
28

Register No.

P.

4284/29

SECRET.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Minute Paper.

Dated

1929.

Rec.

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To			
Under Secretary	27.6.	Hand	<u>NORTH-EAST FRONTIER</u>
Secretary of State...			
Committee.....	28	Hand	Advance to the Sijom River in the
Under Secretary.....			Abor Country
Secretary of State...			

Copy to

F.O. 26.6.29.

FOR INFORMATION.

The Govt of India requested sanction for this advance (P5933/28) with a view to controlling the disturbances among the tribes due to a land famine.

In giving sanction the Secretary of State asked the Govt of India to consider a remedy for this economic trouble.

The Political Officer was unable to get in touch with the villagers responsible for the disturbances during the past cold weather but proposes to cross the Sijom River during the cold weather of 1929-30 with a view to investigating the problem.*

Meanwhile the new post sanctioned will be established at Pangin village at a cost of Rs 3000 per annum.

HAFORumbong
27.6.29.

SEEN

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

9 JUL 1929

Previous Papers:—

+ on his return to Assam
Govt. will report on the
sanction raised by the Govt.

3287 2000 12.28

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom left, including a large 'X' and various initials.

INDEXED



No.F.179-X/28.

26 JUN 1929

As before
FO
hr.

From

The Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign and Political Department,

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.

Dated Simla, the 6 June 1929.

Advance to the Siyom river in the Abor country
in the Sadiya Frontier Tract.

5933/28
P.T. 3276/29
r

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No.Pol-834/2508-A.P., dated the 2nd April 1929, I am directed to convey the sanction of the Government of India to the Yembung post being advanced to the vicinity of Pangin village and to the addition of one sardar and twenty five coolies to the Sadiya Coolie Corps at an estimated expenditure of Rs. three thousand per annum.

The additional expenditure involved should be met as far as possible from within the existing budget grant.

In regard to the Political Officer's visit to the Dosing and Riga villages during the cold weather of 1929-30, I am to state that while the Government of India agree that this should not delay the establishment of a temporary post near Pangin village, it appears not impossible that the visit may be opposed by force. I am to enquire whether this possibility has been considered, and, if so, whether the local Government are satisfied that they will be in a position to deal with any situation which may arise without military assistance?

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,



Sd. J.G.Acheson,

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

INDEXED

PUT AWAY WITH

15 MAY 1929

5933
28

70
NR
Parby
WAR
17/5.

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM.
3376
1929

Letter No. Pol.-834/2508 A.P.
Apptt. & Pol. Department.
Political Branch.

From

G.E. Soames, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam,

To

ENCLOSURE IN The
INDIA FOREIGN SECRETARY'S
Letter No. 237 M.
Dated 25 APR 1929
Received 13 MAY 1929

Foreign Secretary to the Government of India.

Shillong, the 2nd April 1929.

Subject:- Advance to the Siyom river in the Abor country
in the Sadiya Frontier Tract.

Sir,

1. 2115/29
5933/16

I am directed to refer to the Foreign and Political Department's letter No. F.179-X/28, dated the 1st December 1928, and to say that the Political Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract, who proceeded to the Siyom river, has now reported that he was unable to get into touch with either the Gams of Dosing village or the representatives of the strong Dosing element in Yekshing village itself. From conversation, which he had with the two Gams of Yekshing, who represent the old villagers but do not speak for nor have any influence over the Dosing immigrants, it is apparent that while they themselves are friendly and have no desire to encroach on other villages' land, they are powerless to prevent inroads on the part of the powerful Dosing party in the village. The latter's refusal even to discuss the situation is a clear indication of their intentions towards the cis-Siyom villages.

2. In these circumstances the Governor in Council agrees with the Political Officer that the Yembung post should be advanced to the vicinity of Pangin village, where an excellent site is available at no great distance from the Siyom River. This post, which should consist of one platoon of the 2nd (Lakhimpur) Battalion, Assam Rifles, will ensure that any Dosing squatters are escorted back across the Siyom river, and that Pangin and Moreng villages are left unmolested. Should the attitude of Yekshing and Dosing make this necessary, the post could be moved forward

forward to a site overlooking the cane bridge below Yekshing village, but for the present it would be sufficient if the post were established near Pangin.

3. As regards the expenditure involved in the proposal, I am to say that an addition of a section of one sardar and 25 coolies to the present reduced strength of the Sadiya Coolie Corps will be required to put the post out and keep it rationed. The annual cost of an additional section is a little over Rs.3000/- per annum. The coolies will also be employed in widening and improving the existing ~~Abor~~ ^{Abor} parth, while ~~the~~ the small cost involved in making the temporary post can be met from existing grants. The sole difficulty would be the permanent bridging of the Yembung stream, but as this can be spanned by a temporary log-bridge during the cold weather, there is no immediate need to construct a permanent bridge. It is unnecessary to increase the Abor Hills garrison which will require only redistribution.

4. I am to invite also a reference to my letter No.Pol.420-1121 A.P., dated the 13th February 1929. As explained above the Political Officer was not able to get into touch with Dosing village and is not at present able to submit a further report on the observations of the Secretary of State. It is suggested that the Political Officer should be permitted to visit Dosing and Riga villages during the cold weather of 1929-30 in order to obtain fuller information on the whole position. This, however, should not delay the establishment of a temporary post near Pangin village.

I have, etc.,

Sd. G.E.Soames,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.

My

INDEXED

P
2115
1928
No. 179-X/28.

M: N
PUT AWAY WITH
5933/28

From

The Under Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign & Political Department,

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.

Dated New Delhi, the 24th December 1928.

Advance to the Siyom River in
the Abor Country.

P.P. 5933/28

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with the letter from the Government of India in the Foreign & Political Department, No. 179-X/28, dated the 1st December 1928, I am directed to forward a copy of a letter, No. P. 5933/28, dated the 29th November 1928, from the Secretary, Political Department, India Office, and to request that, with the permission of the Governor in Council, the Government of India may be furnished with the views of the Assam Government on the observations made by His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

I have, etc.,

Sd. P. Gaisford,

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

ENCLOSURE IN
INDIA FOREIGN SECRETARY'S
Letter No. 15 M.
Dated 21 FEB. 1929
Received 11 MAR. 1929

P.W. 15/3

✓

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM.

The Governor in Council.

Letter No. Pol. 420/112/ A.P.

Apptt. & Pol. Department.

Political Branch.

From

G.E. Soames, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam,

To

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India,
New Delhi.

Shillong, the 13th February 1929.

Subject:- Advance to the Siyom River in the Abor country.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the correspondence ending with Major Gaisford's letter No. F.179-X/28, dated the 24th December 1928, and in reply to say that the Political Officer, Sadiya Frontier Tract, has been asked to report on the observations made by His Majesty's Secretary of State for India. The Political Officer will submit his report after his return from his visit to the Siyom river which he is now about to make. He hopes then to get in touch with representatives of Dosing and Yekshing, but it may be necessary for him next year to cross the Siyom river and visit those villages, if he is to obtain an accurate appreciation of the position. A further report will be submitted to the Government of India in due course.

I have, etc.,

Sd. G.E. Soames,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.

G.E.

Register No.

5933

PUT AWAY WITH

5933

28

SECRET.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Letter

Telegram

from

Govt. of India

Dated

18 Oct

Rec.

5 Nov

192 8

Formally acknowledged

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To			
Chairman.....			North East Frontier
Under Secretary	11. xi	Who	—
Secretary of State...	12	AA	Proposed establishment of a
Committee.....	13	P	post on the Siyom River in
Under Secretary.....	23	Who	the Aboer Country.
Secretary of State...			

Sent on 10/11

Ans 23/11

Copy to

FOR USE BY DEPARTMENTS ONLY.

If the raiding is really due to shortage of land, the police post will not stop it in the long run. Would it not be well to follow up the telegram by a letter to the S. of S. asking if they have considered what is the remedy for the economic trouble?

AA

12/11

I agree P

13/11

Draft telegram to Vicary sanctioning

Draft Secretary's Letter in accordance with the suggestion made by Sir A. Strickland

23 NOV 1928

APPROVED

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Telegram to Vicary

24 NOV 1928

Letter to Govt of India - 29 NOV 1928

Previous Papers :—

732

13

The places mentioned in this correspondence, all belonging to the Aboir country, situated in the valley of the Dihang, a tributary of the Brahmaputra, are shown in the small sketch map immediately below.

In 1912 (telegram to Viceroy 3 Oct.) the S. of S. sanctioned a policy of "loose political control" over this region, which, *inter alia*, accepted the establishment of a trading post near Kebang - it was actually opened at Rotung.

In 1914, the Govt. of Assam submitted proposals for an extension of control in the Aboir country by moving the post at Rotung up to Yembung, to which village the road had already been made, and ultimately as far as Riga (letter 2076-P, 7 May 1914 - P4745/14). The Govt. of India, however, were not prepared to take any action on the proposals "until the grave preoccupations of the war have passed" (letter no. 1112 E.B. 12 Nov 1914 - P4745/14).

In 1919, upon further representations from the Assam Govt, they approved the "maintenance of the road to Yembung and the occupation of the post at Yembung for such period ^{each year} as may be found convenient, but desire that no further advance into the Aboir country should be made without reference to them" (letter 26 E.B. 21 Jan 1919 - P1231/19).

The proposal which the Assam Govt now put forward, and which the Govt. of India submit for sanction, is the establishment of a post on the Siyon River, some 9 miles further north than the post at Yembung, for the purpose of controlling the friction existing between the Jans. Siyon section of the Muxong tribe at Riga and Dosing, and the As-Siyon portion of the tribe centred round Kebang - as well as that between the Pangi tribe and the Muxong and Padam tribes.

The Assam Govt. are of opinion that no complications are likely to result from the forward move, but if intervention is deferred, bloodshed is reported to be inevitable.

A force of 12 platoons would be required for the post on the Sijon, and the existing posts at Yenlung and Roling would be maintained with a force of half a platoon each on the line of communication with Pasighat.

The additional expenditure will not be known until after the visit of the Political Officer to the Sijon, which it is proposed he should do during the coming cold weather, for the purpose of selecting a site; but the Assam Govt. say it "will not be great".

The forward move ~~action~~ is not beyond what was contemplated in 1912, and it is proposed to sanction the proposal.

The Govt. of India ask for a telegraphic reply in order that arrangements may be made in good time for the coming winter.

J. M. Alcock
8/11/28

Draft Paper.

P5933/28

Department.

Safe in accordance with L. R. Hithis
suggestion proposed by Political Committee.

8261 NOV 62

Advance to the Siyom River
in the Abor Country.

The Deputy Secretary
Govt. of India,
F. & P. Dept.

Book

Sir,

With reference to the S. & S's
telegram No. 3356 dated 23/11/28
sanctioning the proposals made in
your letter No. F. 179-X/28, of
the 18th October 1928, relative to the
establishment of a police post on
the Siyom River in the Abor Country,
I am directed to say that, if - as
appears to be the case from the
review of the situation made by the
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
in his letter of the 14th Sept -
raiding by the northern groups of
the Mnyong tribe across the
Siyom is really one to shortage
of food, it seems doubtful
whether the establishment of a
police post will in the long
run, ^{suffice to stop it.} ~~be an effective~~
~~remedy~~. In the circumstances,
Govt. will be glad to be
informed whether the Government
of India have considered what
is the ~~real~~ ^{remedy} ~~aid~~ for the
economic trouble.

APPROVED
POLITICAL COMMITTEE

23 NOV 1928

2949 5000 7.28

21/11/28

21/11/28

RET
(SD) L. D. WAKELY.

DRAFT TELEGRAM.

P 5933/28

SECRETARY OF STATE

TO
VICEROY, FOREIGN AND POLITICAL
DEPARTMENT.
(Retamilla)

Book.

C.

Retamilla

3356

*You Foreign Secretary's letter
18 October. Advance to the
Syon river. Proposal is
sanctioned.*

REH

14. 11.

APPROVED
POLITICAL COMMITTEE
23 NOV 1928

*KW
14 "*

*Wm
14/11*

*7/11
14/11*

*fund
Wm
14. 11.*

SEEN BY <i>J.S.</i>	DATE	TIME
REC'D. IN TEL. BCH.	24/11	10.45 AM
CODE, X or XX	X	
DESPATCHED	24/11	11.59 AM
NO. OF WORDS	12	
SENDER'S INITIALS	<i>Jm.</i>	

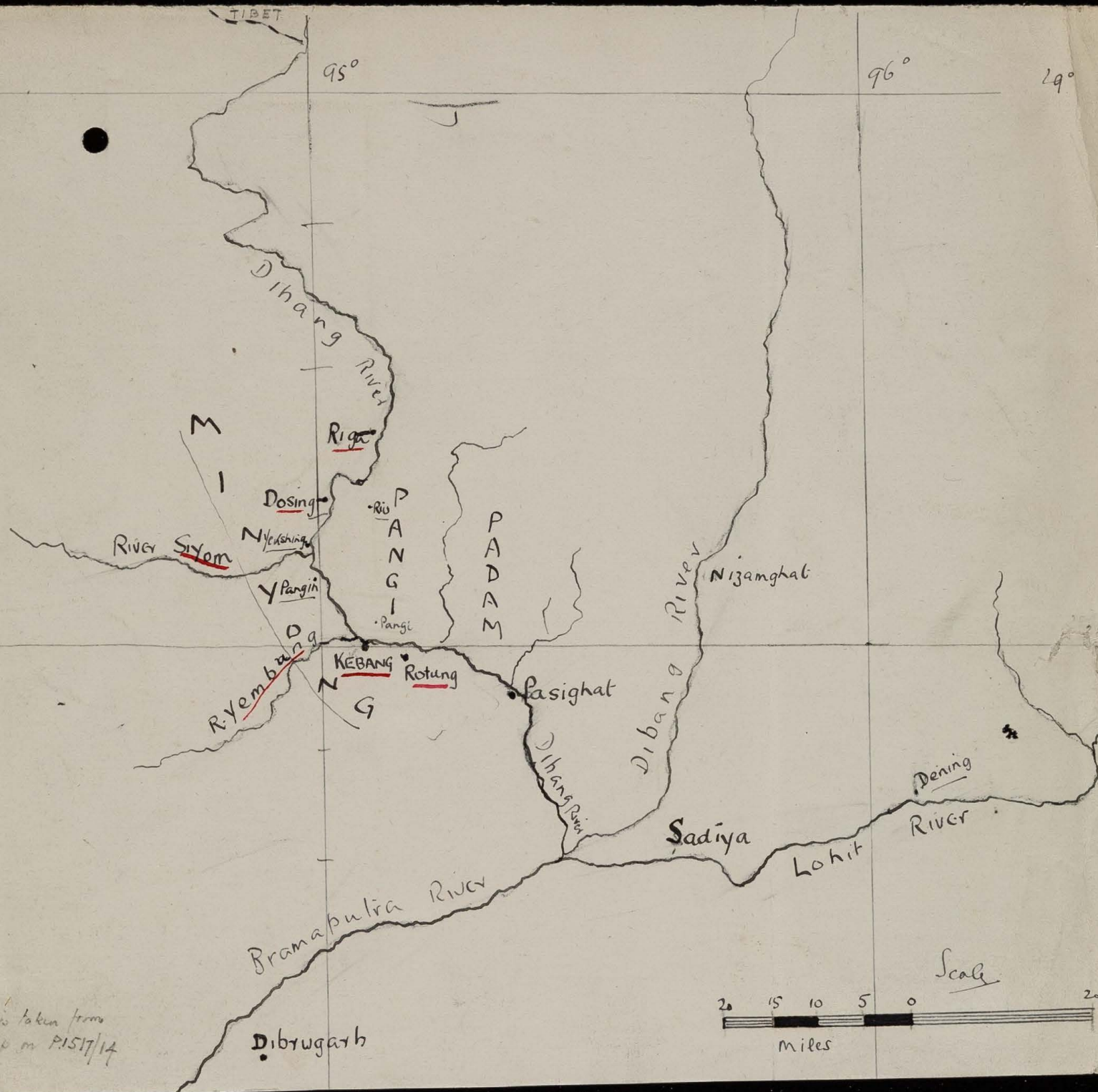
TIBET

94

95°

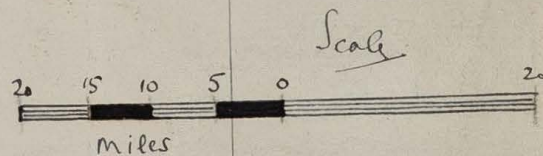
96°

29°



The Tibetan frontier is taken from
Dr. H. Mc Mahon's map of 1917/14

Dibrugarh



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No.F.179-X/28.

5933

Ln

From

The Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign and Political Department,

To

L.D.Wakely, Esquire, C.B.,
Secretary, Political Department,
India Office, Whitehall,
London, S.W.1.

432
12/11/19
2274/28

Dated Simla, the 18th October 1928.

Advance to the Siyom River in the Abor country
in the Sadiya Frontier Tract.

Sir,

With reference to the papers forwarded with the
Foreign Secretary's weekly letter No.6-M, dated the 22nd
January 1919, I am directed to forward a copy of the marginally

P1231/1919

Letter from the Government of Assam,) cited communication and to
No.Pol.2537/5803 A.P., dated the)
14th September 1928.) request that, for the reasons

explained by the Government of Assam, with which the Government
of India concur, His Majesty's Secretary of State will be
pleased to sanction the proposal.

2. In order to enable arrangements to be made in good
time for the ensuing winter I am to request that your reply
may be communicated by telegram.

(I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. A. C.

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.



(with 2 spare copies)

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM.

The Governor in Council.

Letter No. Pol. 2537/ A.P.

Apptt. & Pol. Department.

Political Branch.

5933

1928

From

G.E. Soames, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam,

To

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India.

Shilling, the 14th September 1928.

Subject:- Advance to the Siyom River in the Abor
country in the Sadiya Frontier Tract.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to letter No. 26 E.B., dated 21st January 1919, in which the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department sanctioned the occupation of a post at Yembung but directed that no further advance into the Abor country should be made without reference to them. I am now to say that a situation has arisen which requires a forward move to the Siyom river. Kebang a village south of the Yembung stream in the controlled area is the head or parent village of the group of villages which lie between the Yembung stream and Siyom river on the west of the Dihang river. These villages all belong to the Kebang group of the Minyong tribe. North of the Siyom river are villages of the powerful Riga group of the Minyong tribe. Though both the Kebang and Riga groups belong to the Minyong tribe they are sharply divided and have in the past engaged in bitter hostilities, Riga having once stormed and burnt Kebang village. The Siyom river has for long been considered the boundary between the two groups and except in actual war the accepted boundary had not until recently been violated by either side. Land hunger however has now led the people of Dosing and Yekshing of the Riga group to cross the Siyom and occupy land belonging to the village Pangin of the Kebang group. The gams of Kebang with a deputation from Pangin approached the Political Officer of the Sadiya Frontier Tract in February last and asked him to prevent the inroads of Dosing and Yekshing into Pangin land. A serious situation may develop unless some action is taken. The

inroads

inroads will continue and extend, and Kebang the parent village which is in the controlled area cannot for long be restrained from active interference on behalf of Pangin and other villages in their group. Kebang has already asked the Political Officer's permission to expel the invaders by force. Unless steps are taken to stop the inroads, a state of warfare will arise in which villages in the controlled area will be involved, and Government will then be forced to interfere.

A timely move forward to the Siyom river and the establishment of a post there will enable the Political Officer to stop the inroads before bloodshed has occurred. The advance to the Siyom will bring all the Kebang group under direct control and at the same time the Siyom will provide a much better natural boundary than the Yembung stream. The distance between the two is about 9 miles, so that there will be only a short advance. No complications are likely to result from this move but, if intervention is deferred, bloodshed is reported to be inevitable.

The establishment of the post on the Siyom may also enable the Political Officer to pave the way for the cessation of hostilities between the Pangin tribe and the Minyong and Padam tribes which were reported in my letter No. Pol. 1270/2450 A.P., dated the 10th April 1928.

2. A force of $1\frac{1}{2}$ platoons would be required for the post on the Siyom, and the existing posts at Yembung and Kotung would be maintained with a force of half a platoon each on the line of communications with Pasighat. The additional expenditure, which will not be great, will consist of the cost of constructing the post and extending the bridle path with some small recurring expenditure for the transport of rations and kit. If the Government of India regard the proposal favourably, the Political Officer will be directed to proceed to the Siyom river during the ensuing cold weather, select a suitable place for the post and prepare an estimate of the expenditure involved. The

Government

Government of India will then again be addressed and be asked to sanction any expenditure which may be beyond this Government's power of sanction.

3. The position of the villages and rivers concerned will be seen most easily in the map attached to Capt. Hore's Report on the Abor country published by the General Staff in 1913.

I have, etc.,

Sd/- G.E. Soames,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam.

INDEXED

PUT AWAY WITH

2274

5933/28

Copy of a letter No. Pol. 1270/245/A.P., dated Shillong, the 10th April 1928, from the Chief Secretary to the Government of ~~India~~ Assam, Appointment and Political Department, to the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India.

ENCLOSURE IN
INDIA FOREIGN SECRETARY'S

Letter No. 31 M.
Dated 19 APR. 1928
Received 7 MAY. 1928

Inter-tribal hostilities in the Abor country North
of Pasighat.

I am directed to state for the information of the Government of India that inter-tribal conflicts are reported to have broken out between the villages of the Minyong and Padam tribes on the one hand and the Pangis tribe on the other in the unadministered area north of Pasighat.

In August 1927 a report was received from the Political Officer, Sadiya, to the effect that the Pangis tribe which since the Abor expedition of 1912 had lived on more or less peaceful terms with its neighbours the Minyong and Padam tribes, had taken to mithan raiding and other acts of aggression, the ultimate cause being land shortage in the Dihong and Yamne valleys. Since then small raids usually accompanied by murder have occurred from time to time and it was reported that the Minyongs and Padams had formed a combination to drive out the Pangis and take their land. Efforts were made by the two former tribes to obtain guns and powder from their kinsmen in poll-tax paying villages in administered territory, and they also tried to obtain powder and shot from the Assistant Political Officer, Pasighat. The poll-tax paying villages also are anxious to go to the assistance of their kinsmen and have asked the Political Officer for more guns and a larger allowance of ammunition, while on a recent visit to Nizamghat. His Excellency the Governor was approached by several villages for permission to join in the war.

1/24/28
24/5

So far the poll-tax paying villages have not transgressed the prohibition to go to the assistance of Damro, the

parent

parent Padam village which is taking the leading part against the Pangis but it will be difficult to restrain them, if their kinsmen suffer reverses. A combined attack by the independent Padams and Minyongs on Geku and Sibbum, two of the main Pangi villages, at the beginning of March was repulsed, and, though reports are vague, the Pangis appear to be in the ascendant for the moment and will probably proceed to counter-attacks on Padam and Minyong villages. If this occurs the poll-tax paying villages will almost certainly join in and intervention by Government may become necessary. The situation is being watched as closely as possible and any information of importance that may be received will be reported to the Government of India.

The area involved and the villages named are to be found in the map attached to Captain Hore's report on the Abor country published by the General Staff India in 1913.
